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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a method for assigning a channel to a UE by a UTRAN in a CDMA communication system. The UTRAN receives a selected one of a plurality of access preamble signatures from the UE, and selects one of a plurality of channel assignment signatures associated with the received access preamble signature in order to assign one of a plurality of physical common packet channels (PCPCHs) unused in the UTRAN. The UTRAN selects one of the access preamble signatures depending on a maximum data rate required when the UE transmits data. Further, the UTRAN selects one of the unused PCPCH channels depending on the received access preamble signature and the selected channel assignment signature.